

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. **(Currently Amended)** A method of programming a television receiver, the receiver operable to receive a plurality of television channels, the receiver comprising an automatic tuner, the automatic tuner being operable to automatically tune the receiver to a particular channel, the particular channel corresponding to an ID code, said method comprising:

receiving a first broadcast television program with the receiver, the first broadcast television program being received on a first channel during a first time period;

receiving a commercial corresponding to a second television program with the receiver, the commercial being received on the first channel during a second time period, the second time period being within the first time period;

receiving the ID code with the receiver, the ID code being received on the first channel during the second time period; [[and]]

if a user instruction is received during the second time period, activating the receiver during the second time period to extract and store the ID code; and

automatically tuning the receiver to a second channel after the first period if the stored ID code is detected on the second channel wherein the ID code comprises a differentiating portion that enables the receiver to differentiate any one of a plurality of types of ID codes from one another and an information portion for use by the automatic tuner to automatically tune the receiver to a second channel.

2. **(Original)** The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of types of ID codes comprises repeating ID codes, bait ID codes, capture ID codes, and programming ID codes.

3. **(Original)** The method of claim 2, wherein the types of programming ID codes further comprise:

a first type of programming ID code including information relating to a start date, and a start time;

a second type of programming ID code including information relating to a start date, a start time, and an end time;

a third type of programming ID code including information relating to a start date, and a duration;

a fourth type of programming ID code including information relating to a start date, a start time, and a data stream;

a fifth type of programming ID code including information relating to a start date, a start time, an end time, and a data stream; and

a sixth type of programming ID code including information relating to a start date, a duration, and a data stream.

4. **(Original)** The method of claim 1, wherein the differentiating portion of the ID code comprises two bits.

5. **(Original)** A method of transmitting comprising:
transmitting a first program during a first time period on a first data stream, the first program comprising a first main program, a sub-program, and a bait ID code, the sub-program being within the main program, and the bait ID code corresponding to the sub-program; and
transmitting a second program during a second time period on a second data stream, the second program comprises a second main program and a capture ID code, the second main program corresponds to the sub-program, and the capture ID code corresponds to the bait ID code.

6. **(Original)** A method of claim 5, wherein the first program and the sub-program include a first vertical blanking interval, and the bait ID code is in the first vertical blanking interval of the sub-program, and
wherein the second program includes a second vertical blanking interval, and the capture ID code is in the second vertical blanking interval.

7-10. (Canceled)

11. (New) A method of programming a television receiver comprising:

receiving a first broadcast television program with the receiver, the first broadcast television program being received on a first channel of a plurality of channels during a first time period;

receiving a commercial corresponding to a second television program with the receiver, the commercial being received on the first channel during a second time period, the second time period being within the first time period;

receiving the ID code with the receiver, the ID code being received on the first channel during the second time period;

if a user instruction is received during the second time period, activating the receiver during the second time period to extract and store the ID code;

monitoring the plurality of television channels following the second time period; and

if the ID code is detected on the plurality of television channels following the second time period, automatically tuning the receiver to a second channel of the plurality of television channels on which the ID code was detected.

12. (New) The method of claim 11, further comprising displaying during the second period an availability indicator.

13. (New) The method of claim 11, wherein the user instruction comprises a signal transmitted from a remote control in response to a user button press.

14. (New) A method of programming a television receiver comprising:

receiving a first broadcast television program with the receiver, the first broadcast television program being received on a first channel of a plurality of channels during a first time period;

receiving a commercial corresponding to a second television program with the receiver, the commercial being received on the first channel during a second time period, the second time period being within the first time period;

receiving an ID code with the receiver, the ID code being received on the first channel during the second time period;

if a user instruction is received during the second time period, activating the receiver during the second time period to extract and store the ID code;

extracting a program time and program channel from the ID code; and

at the program time and after expiration of the first period, automatically tuning the receiver to a second channel of the plurality of television channels corresponding to the program channel.

15. **(New)** The method of claim 14, further comprising displaying during the second period an availability indicator.

16. **(New)** The method of claim 14, wherein the user instruction comprises a signal transmitted from a remote control in response to a user button press.

17. **(New)** A method of programming a television receiver comprising:
receiving a first broadcast television program with the receiver, the first broadcast television program being received on a first channel of a plurality of channels during a first time period;

receiving a commercial corresponding to a second television program with the receiver, the commercial being received on the first channel during a second time period, the second time period being within the first time period;

receiving a bait code with the receiver, the bait code being received on the first channel during the second time period;

if a user instruction is received during the second time period, activating the receiver during the second time period to store the bait code;

decoding the bait code to generate a capture code; and

monitoring the plurality of television channels following the second time period; and

if the capture code is detected on the plurality of television channels following the second time period, automatically tuning the receiver to a second channel of the plurality of television channels on which the capture code was detected.

18. **(New)** A system comprising:

a television receiver, the receiver operable to receive a plurality of television channels, the receiver comprising an automatic tuner, the automatic tuner being operable to automatically tune the receiver to a particular channel, the receiver programmed to:

receive a first broadcast television program with the receiver, the first broadcast television program being received on a first channel during a first time period;

receive a commercial corresponding to a second television program with the receiver, the commercial being received on the first channel during a second time period, the second time period being within the first time period;

receive an ID code with the receiver, the ID code being received on the first channel during the second time period;

if a user instruction is received during the second time period, activate the receiver during the second time period to extract and store the ID code; and

automatically tune to a second channel after the first period if the stored ID code is detected on the second channel.

19. **(New)** A television receiver operable to receive a plurality of television channels, the receiver comprising:

means for receiving a first broadcast television program, the first broadcast television program being received on a first channel during a first time period and receiving a commercial corresponding to a second television program with the receiver, the commercial being received on the first channel during a second time period, the second time period being within the first time period;

means for detecting an ID code with the receiver, the ID code being received on the first channel during the second time period;

means for activating the receiver during the second time period to extract and store the ID code if a user instruction is received during the second time period; and

means for automatically tuning to a second channel after the first period if the stored ID code is detected on the second channel.

20. The television receiver of claim 19, wherein the means for receiving the first broadcast is an automatic tuner.